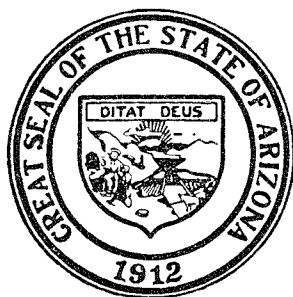

Third Biennial Report of
The Arizona State Law and Legislative
Reference Librarian.

From
July 1, 1918
to
June 30, 1920



CON P. CRONIN
State Law and Legislative
Reference Librarian

LETTER OF TRANSMITTAL

December 4, 1920.

Hon. Thos. E. Campbell,
Governor of Arizona,
The Capitol, Phoenix, Arizona.

Sir.

Transmitted herewith is the Third Biennial Report of the
State Law and Legislative Reference Librarian, as provided by
Chapter 62 (H. B. 31), Session Laws 1915.

Respectfully

CON P. CRONIN,
State Law and Legislative Reference Librarian.

LETTER OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Phoenix, Arizona

December 8, 1920

My Dear Mr. Cronin:

Permit me in behalf of Governor Campbell to acknowledge the receipt of your Third Biennial Report as State Law and Legislative Reference Librarian, as provided by Chapter 62, Session Laws of 1915.

Sincerely yours,

P. R. MILNES,

Secretary to Governor.

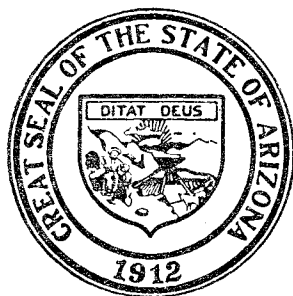
Mr. Con P. Cronin.

State Librarian,

State House, Phoenix, Arizona.

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December 1, 1920.

Hon. Thomas E. Campbell,
Governor of Arizona,
The Capitol, Phoenix, Arizona.

Sir:

The satisfactory progress of the State Library in its many departments and branches during the past few years has necessitated its successful conduct a matter of diligent application and unceasing labor on the part of the very limited library staff.

Owing to the crowded condition of the quarters assigned to the library, the utter lack of space for the proper housing of the great volume of books and pamphlets, lack of working space for the librarian and his assistants, it is a matter of wonder, oft expressed by members of the bar and other patrons, that such meritorious service is rendered.

The library proper, situated on the third floor of the west wing of the capitol is insufficient to shelve but about one-half of the law library, the remainder being in the chambers of the judges of the supreme court, and a small library room on the second floor.

Great difficulty is experienced in securing space for the material and data of the legislative reference department and general reference department of the library, and unless relief is provided, in the way of increased and adequate library facilities, all branches must suffer.

Lack of space precludes the conduct of that most important adjunct to a properly conducted library—the accession department—the work thereof of necessity being conducted in the office, causing a constant state of apparent chaos.

The newspaper room has long since reached the utmost limit of its capacity—the bound volumes of the newspapers and periodicals of the state being now stacked ceiling high, with

The several systems of the many states, particularly the Western States, have been studied; that in vogue in California at the present time being considered most appropriate to our needs here in Arizona. Several tentative plans have been suggested and advocated at recent legislative sessions, but the paramount fact must be faced: Before we undertake a departure of this character proper library facilities must be established at the home base.

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE DEPARTMENT

The growth of this bureau of the library, and its benefits to the law making body of the state, is a matter of much satisfaction to the librarian.

During the several sessions of the legislature—both regular and special—since the creation of the department in 1915, aid and assistance have been rendered the legislature and the individual members thereof, as evidenced by the many and repeated expressions of appreciation.

It is the endeavor of the library staff to have available for immediate reference, facts and data on all subjects of legislation and to aid and assist the members of the legislature in drafting bills, and in every possible manner. During the extra session of the Fourth State Legislature, held in February, 1920, the librarian conducted, unassisted, all necessary clerical work of the Senate, and upon adjournment of the session compiled and had printed the Legislative Journals without cost to the state, effecting thereby a considerable saving to the taxpayers of the state.

In connection with the Legislative Reference Bureau the librarian has for several years past been a member of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. Four of the uniform laws have been prepared by him, passed by the Legislature, and are now on the statute books of the state. The most important of these bills are the Uniform Negotiable Instruments Law and the Uniform Fraudulent Conveyance Act. A detailed report of the Arizona Commissioners on Uniform State Laws has been prepared and will be presented to the Legislature at its coming session. A number of additional uniform laws are now in process of preparation and will be presented to the Fifth State Legislature for consideration.

LAW LIBRARY

During the past two years the law library has been materially increased by adding thereto many of the publications indispensable to a modern legal workshop. Many of these publications have been secured through exchange, some by gift, while those purchased have been acquired at the lowest possible price.

The statute laws of the several states have been in the past very incomplete—and only recently have we been enabled to complete the current codes and statutes of several of the states. Our current code and statute laws of the several states are now complete, however, and in addition we have been successful in completing the Codes, Statutes and Session Laws of many of the states from their beginning—notably of those states from which our Revised Statutes have been in part compiled.

Strange as it may seem, the library was without a complete set of its own statutes and session laws—many of the earlier session laws being almost impossible to acquire—until the past year, when Senator M. A. Smith presented the librarian with a full set of the missing volumes, including a copy of the Howell Code and several session laws, thus completing the set.

“ARIZONA”

We have been enabled from time to time to add to our collection on “Arizona” and now have upwards of three hundred volumes, biographical, historical and fiction, on that most interesting subject. To reading clubs, home study clubs, and individuals interested in the early history of Arizona we are glad to afford this opportunity for study and research.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

In compliance with Chapter 61, Session Laws 1919, regular monthly financial reports are submitted to the state executive secretary; also an annual statement of receipts and expenditures

The first annual statement made under the provisions of this law, for the fiscal year 1919-1920, shows:

RECEIPTS

From Fees, State Supreme Court—

July, 1919	\$ 382.20
August, 1919	126.75
September, 1919	290.85
October, 1919	443.75
November, 1919	452.35
December, 1919	453.60
January, 1920	280.73
February, 1920	271.70
March, 1920	385.35
April, 1920	725.25
May, 1920	372.50
June, 1920	405.35
Feb. 19, 1920, from Callaghan & Co., rebate on duplicate payment, law books	16.20
Total Receipts	\$4,606.58
Balance on hand July 1, 1919	3,779.85
Grand total, end of fiscal year 1919-1920	\$8,386.43

DISBURSEMENTS

Traveling expenses	\$ 377.69
Stationery and office supplies	582.41
Postage	150.00
Telegraph and telephone	3.48
Express, freight and drayage	119.94
Law books, printing and publications (including sub- scriptions to all state newspapers and periodicals)	3,146.12
Miscellaneous	88.17
Total expenditures	\$4,467.81
Balance on hand July 1, 1920	\$3,918.62

In conclusion the librarian is pleased to report a satisfactory period since the last biennial statement. The law library has been added to and enlarged in a manner most satisfactory to all interested; the legislative reference department has been in constant and growing demand, and has been successful to a very satisfactory extent. The general library is growing constantly, through exchange with the other states, by gift, and through the federal government—the library being a federal depository and the recipient of all national publications.

However, if we are to expand and enlarge—keep pace with

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However, if we are to expand and enlarge—keep pace with

the times and the wishes of our citizenry, we must have more room. As previously stated herein, the non-city resident, the dweller in the remote hamlet and town and mining camp has rights that should not be denied. His intellectual needs are crying out. He requires and must have books. Traveling libraries is the answer. Present conditions are entirely inadequate for the proper conduct of any system of relief. The first thing, the one vital necessity, is a new library building of ample space. The rest will rapidly follow.

Respectfully submitted,

CON P. CRONIN,

State Law and Legislative Reference Librarian.

